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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY China

REPORT

SUBJECT Agricultural and Economic Conditions
in Kwangtung, and Regulations There
Affecting Overseas Chinese

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. [redacted] government rice rationing in Canton was limited to 7 or 8 catties per person a month [redacted] City inhabitants got a monthly ration of 30 to 40 catties each.

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2. the daily rice ration in the area was limited to one-half a catty per person; and no other cereals, soy beans, flour, potatoes, or squash could be purchased. In order to conserve food, no one was allowed to stay with relatives or friends in any village other than his own. All surplus foodstuffs had to be sold to the government, and the government also received a portion of a farm family's crop equivalent to a four-months' ration for a family. 25X1

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3. [redacted] although residents had previously received a full monthly rice ration, the government issued an austerity decree [redacted] that limited [redacted] family of eight persons to a ration of 125 catties for that month. [redacted] 25X1
the ration was cut to 51 catties; [redacted] it was raised to 69 catties. Flour, vermicelli, and noodles were very expensive, although not rationed. [redacted] 25X1

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4. An irrigation project was begun in the village of Mei-tuan Hsinbut (N 22-35, E 113-05) Hsien, Kwangtung. [redacted] the construction of a dike from Yangkuan to Hsingwanchung was planned. It was to be financed by a levy of JMP70,000 per mou. Persons from 15 to 50 years of age were to be subject to conscription for the job. 25X1
5. [redacted] 25X1
6. [redacted] the price of rice had been unchanged. The rise in other commodities, however, had ranged from 100 to 200 percent; and all cooperatives had closed. Whereas fish could be purchased formerly at the rate of 5 to 6 taels for 10 cents, it had now become scarce; the same amount of money would buy only 2 or 2½ taels. Eggs, which formerly sold at the rate of 5 or 6 for 10 cents, were selling for 7 or 8 cents each. 25X1

Regulations Affecting Overseas Chinese

7. [redacted] the creditor's cooperative facilitated remittances from the overseas Chinese to their relatives. The cooperative was said to aim at serving the overseas Chinese. 25X1
8. [redacted] the government had, beginning in 1955, identified the overseas Chinese with the working class and decreed that the identification of this group with the landlord class be stopped. 25X1
9. [redacted] the admission of overseas Chinese into China was based on the merit of their documents. It was therefore expedient that these Chinese acquire as many documents as possible. Special privileges were extended to overseas Chinese by the customs, and many items of personal property were permitted shipment into the country. In extreme cases, a person was allowed to pay tax on items of his property and retain it for his own use. [redacted] 25X1
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Economic Conditions

10. [redacted] a government decree forbade anyone to enter the small trader's business. 25X1
11. A [redacted] Canton [redacted] factory was unable to fulfill its quota, as established by the government Domestic Products Company. A lack of rubber was the cause of only 45 percent of the quota being filled. 25X1
12. [redacted], the government decreed in [redacted] that the schools of various villages be combined; the result was that there were about 100 students to each school. The government set a ratio of 40 students to one teacher. 25X1
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